

Marines TAILEND CHARLIE

Marines BOONDOGGLE

North Fuji Maneuvering Area,



Japan



While rounds are impacting their designated targets, Lance Cpl. Ryan P. Scott, scout observer, and 2nd Lt. Matthew J. Agnoli, forward observer, with T Battery, 5th Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment, currently assigned to 3/12, 3rd Marine Division, watch to make the proper adjustments for the firing line. The forward observer position is nearly 1,500 meters from the impact area and provides a close-up view of the rounds impacting.

Photo by Sgt. Danny L. Patterson

Grenade: 101

Of the many lessons taught to young Marines, none may be quite as important as the ones learned at the feet of our combat veterans. This lesson involves throwing—or in this case, not throwing—a hand grenade, extreme pucker factor and a new understanding of the word “retention.”

While sitting in a listening post one night in the jungles of Vietnam, reserve Maj. John Arsenault, then a lance coolie with Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, found himself involved in a grenade toss with enemy forces. After exchanging a few grenades with his opponent, Arsenault, now assigned to Headquarters Marine Corps Public Affairs, pulled the pin on another and waited anxiously for the sound of movement so he could throw his grenade. When he heard the movement, it was obviously moving away from his position. So, since the guy was obviously trying to “di di” and grenades were in short supply, Arsenault, a prudent executor of our tax dollars, decided not to waste the grenade. What followed was a long night of desperate searching for a grenade pin with one hand, while holding down on the handle of a live grenade in the other. Several nerve-

wracking hours later, the sun came up, the pin was retrieved and the grenade was made safe.

Today, Arsenault still carries a grenade pin on his dog tag chains—just in case—and recommends other Marines retain their pins when they throw grenades. It seems a pin in the handle is worth a million in the jungle bush. **M**



Illustration by Gunnery Sgt. Glenn Holloway

Jarhead Jeopardy

In a recent Marines online survey, respondents were asked to identify which item they would most prefer to have in their hiding holes if they were in Saddam's shoes... and the couch potatoes have it. More than 30 percent of our would-be despot dictators consider cable TV a true necessity. The graph below breaks the results down further.



Other survey takers felt compelled to add their own answers. Of these, “adult reading material” was the landslide winner, followed closely by “companionship.” Other requests included Brittany Spears and the Olsen twins; cold “beverages” and collard greens; and perhaps most bizarre, Pete Rose, where the survey taker stated he'd bet all the money “that Saddam has a better haircut than Pete. Doesn't he know gambling is illegal?”

1. The latest Dr. Phil book on audio (to get in touch with your inner dictator)
2. Cable TV (for updates of where troops are searching)
3. A 'No grenade-throwing allowed' sign (to prevent unwanted explosions)
4. Delousing powder (to get rid of unwanted company)
5. E-Bay connections (to spend the \$750K)
6. Paper shredder (for destroying incriminating evidence)
7. Shovel (for larger accommodations)
8. Indoor plumbing (for... well - you know)
9. Ladder (for climbing your way out of your current career slump)
10. Personal hygiene items (for your first out-of-hole interview with CNN)

Look for more **upcoming** surveys on www.usmc.mil **<http://www.usmc.mil/>**, the Marine Corps' official Web site.

